

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a toothbrush comprising at least two molded parts by injection molding, comprising the steps of:

injection molding of a first of the at least two molded parts forming at least part of a toothbrush handle from a first plastic material in a first step that includes formation of projections or recesses, respectively, on the first molded part at at least part of a contact surface; and

injection molding of a second of the at least two molded parts bearing a brush head from a second plastic material in a subsequent second step that includes formation of corresponding recesses or projections, respectively, on the second molded part and engaging the projections or recesses on the first molded part, so that one molded part of the first and second molded parts is at least partially enclosed by the other molded part to interengage the first and second molded parts and mechanically join the parts firmly to one another without ;
~~wherein the second plastic material does not form~~forming a chemical bond with the first plastic material during the injection-molding operation.

2. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein in the second molding step the second plastic material is injection molded around or into the first molded part forming at least part of a toothbrush handle, the second plastic material at least partially enclosing said first molded part to form a shrink connection.

3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first plastic material has a lower degree of shrinkage than the second plastic material.

4. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein in the first molding step a first plastic material is used which is less resistant to a tooth-cleaning agent containing peppermint oil than the second plastic material used in the second molding step.

5. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first plastic material is transparent.

6. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein styrene acrylonitrile, acrylonitrile-butadiene styrene, polyamide, polycarbonate or polyester is used as the first plastic material.

7. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein polypropylene is used as the second plastic material.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~claim 8~~claim 1, wherein annular recesses or projections are formed on the first molded part.

10. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the at least two molded parts is injection molded from two or more plastic material components, and at least one of these plastic material components does not form a chemical bond with the plastic material of the other molded part during the injection molding operation.

11. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein one of the plastic material components is a thermoplastic elastomer.

12. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first molded part is formed as a sleeve with a front and a rear end face and wherein in the second molding step a first and a second offset surface are formed on the second molded part, the first offset surface acting together with the front end face of the first molded part and the second offset surface acting together with the rear end face of the first molded part.

13. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein annular projections are formed at the front end face of the first molded part for forming a positive-fitting joint with the second molded part.

14. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein annular projections are formed at the rear end face of the first molded part for forming a positive-fitting joint with the second molded part.

15. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein in the first molding step the first molded part is formed with a projection at one of its end faces and wherein in the second molding step the second molded part having a recess corresponding in shape to the projection is injection molded.

16. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein in the first molding step a cross-bore is formed on the first molded part, the cross-bore serving to receive a matching part provided on the second molded part.

17-36. (Canceled).

37. (New) A method for producing a toothbrush comprising at least two molded parts by injection molding, comprising the steps of:

injection molding of a first of the at least two molded parts forming at least part of a toothbrush handle from a first plastic material in a first step that includes formation of projections or recesses on the first molded part at at least part of a contact surface; and

injection molding of a second of the at least two molded parts bearing a brush head from a second plastic material in a subsequent second step in which the second plastic material is injection molded around or into the first molded part at the contact surface so that the second plastic material is molded with diametrically opposed corresponding projections or recesses so that the first and second molded parts interengage and mechanical join to one another without the second plastic material forming a chemical bond with the first plastic material.

38. (New) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein the first plastic material has a lower degree of shrinkage than the second plastic material.

39. (New) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein in the first molding step a first plastic material is used which is less resistant to a tooth-cleaning agent containing peppermint oil than the second plastic material used in the second molding step.

40. (New) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein the first plastic material is transparent.

41. (New) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein styrene acrylonitrile, acrylonitrile-butadiene styrene, polyamide, polycarbonate or polyester is used as the first plastic material.

42. (New) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein polypropylene is used as the second plastic material.

43. (New) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein annular recesses or projections are formed on the first molded part.

44. (New) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein at least one of the at least two molded parts is injection molded from two or more plastic material components, and at least one of these plastic material components does not form a chemical bond with the plastic material of the other molded part during the injection molding operation.

45. (New) The method as claimed in claim 44, wherein one of the plastic material components is a thermoplastic elastomer.

46. (New) The method as claimed in claim 45, wherein the first molded part is formed as a sleeve with a front and a rear end face and wherein in the second molding step a first and a second offset surface are formed on the second molded part, the first offset surface

acting together with the front end face of the first molded part and the second offset surface acting together with the rear end face of the first molded part.

47. (New) The method as claimed in claim 46, wherein annular projections are formed at the front end face of the first molded part for forming a positive-fitting joint with the second molded part.

48. (New) The method as claimed in claim 46, wherein annular projections are formed at the rear end face of the first molded part for forming a positive-fitting joint with the second molded part.

49. (New) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein in the first molding step the first molded part is formed with a projection at one of its end faces and wherein in the second molding step the second molded part having a recess corresponding in shape to the projection is injection molded.

50. (New) The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein in the first molding step a cross-bore is formed on the first molded part, the cross-bore serving to receive a matching part provided on the second molded part.